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Message Text

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44
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8828

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, VS
SUBJECT: PRG VIEWS ON SVN SOLUTION ACCORDING TO
VIETNAMESE SOCIALISTS

1. BUI KIEN THANH, DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL FOR
POLITICAL AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS,OF THE VIETNAM SOCIALIST PARTY,
CALLED EMBOFF APRIL
25 TO INFORM US OF APRIL 24 CONVERSATION WITH THE PRG.
VIETNAMESE SOCIALISTS PROPOSED TO PRG THE CONSTITUTION
OF A GOVERNMENT IN SAIGON MADE UP OF THE LEADERS OF THE
FOUR PRINCIPAL RELIGIONS. SOCIALISTS ARGUED THAT ONLY
RELIGIOUS LEADERS REALLY REPRESENTED AN IMPORTANT PART
OF THE VIETNAMESE POPULATION. NO STATESMEN OR GENERAL
(BIG MINH WAS CITED SPECIFICALLY) REALLY REPRESENTED
VERY MUCH IN SOUTH VIETNAM. SOCIALISTS NOTED THAT ONLY
RELIGIOUS LEADERS WOULD BE ABLE TO NEGOTIATE AUTHORITA-
TIVELY WITH PRG AND TO FACILITATE POST WAR RECONCILIATION
AND CONSTRUCTION THROUGH CONVINCING POPULATION TO WORK
TOGETHER WITH THE PRG.

2. THE PRG TOLD SOCIALISTS THAT THEY WOULD WELCOME SUCH
A GOVERNMENT IN SAIGON BOTH FOR NEGOTIATIONS AND FOR
POST NEGOTIATION RECONCILIATION. SUCH A GOVERNMENT
WOULD HOWEVER HAVE TO FULFILL THE PRG REQUIREMENTS THAT
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IT DECLARE THAT IT IS FOR PEACE, RECONCILIATION AND

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CONCORD AND THAT IT PUT AN END TO ALL U.S. INTERFERENCE. SOCIALISTS AGREE THAT THE GOVERNMENT THEY ENVISAGED WOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH THESE REQUIREMENTS.

3. THANH SAID THAT FOLLOWING THIS CONVERSATION SOCIALISTS SENT A CABLE TO MSGR. BINH TO CONVEY PRG REACTIONS. THEY HOPE BINH WILL IN TURN CONTACT LEADERS OF OTHER RELIGIONS TO DISCUSS FORMATION OF A GOVERNMENT. THANH NOTED THAT ON APRIL 22 THERE HAD BEEN A SERVICE IN THE SAIGON CATHEDRAL IN WHICH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 4 RELIGIONS HAD JOINED IN A PRAYER FOR PEACE. THANH WAS AFRAID, HOWEVER, THAT THE CABLE TO MSGR. BINH MIGHT NOT HAVE BEEN RECEIVED. SINCE THE PRG HAS STRESSED THE NECESSITY OF MOVING VERY RAPIDLY, THANH ASKED WHETHER U.S. COULD FACILITATE THEIR COMMUNICATIONS WITH RELIGIOUS LEADERS IN VIETNAM.

4. COMMENT: EMBOFF SAID U.S. COMMUNICATION FACILITIES WERE ALSO NOW INADEQUATE, BUT THAT SOCIALISTS' VIEWS WOULD BE SENT TO DEPARTMENT.
RUSH

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